

13-4687

OGC 8-1095

16 JUN 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Congressional Inquiry Concerning Crusade
for Freedom and Radio Free Europe

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation submitted for approval of the Director of Central Intelligence. Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 4.
2. Congressman John F. Baldwin (R.) of California originally wrote to the Department of State on behalf of a constituent concerning alleged subversive activities within FEC. Mr. Macomber replied to Mr. Baldwin who forwarded a letter to the constituent.
3. The constituent was persevering and wrote again to the Congressman who, on 4 June 1958, directed a letter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation requesting information whether the operations of RFE have been subversive or have violated laws of this country. After discussion with the Security Office, IO and this office, Mr. Hoover replied to Mr. Baldwin by letter dated 10 June stating that the matter had been referred to another agency of the Government and that representatives of that agency would call on Mr. Baldwin. Copies of all correspondence are attached.
4. Under the circumstances it seems necessary that Mr. Baldwin be briefed and by the Agency. While it may not be necessary to give him the full extent of CIA participation, nevertheless we should be prepared to answer his questions frankly if he puts a direct question on this subject. Otherwise, I would propose to brief him concerning our knowledge of the activities and the close cooperation both in the field of security and in other fields. For this purpose it is recommended that Cerd Meyer and

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NEXT REVIEW DATE: *20/11*

AUTH: HR 70-2

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SECRET

myself arrange a meeting to discuss this matter with the Congressman. As a matter of information, I have been informed by knowledgeable people in the Department of the Army that Mr. Baldwin is a reasonable and discreet individual and is willing to listen to a story if the matter is put to him in a frank and candid way.

(S)

JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

Atts - 4

CONCURRENCE:

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(S)
IO Division 0 0

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Security Office

The recommendation in
paragraph 4 is approved.

Distribution:
OR¹ DCI (Orig ret'd to Legis.
1 - DDCI (Cancelled)
✓ 1 - ER
1 - IO
1 - Security
1 - Legislative Counsel

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

JUN 1958

OGC/LC:JSW:mks (14 June 1958)

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May 24, 1958

Hon. John F. Baldwin
Room 321, House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I acknowledge your reply, dated March 27, 1958, to my answers to your questionnaire, and to my comments about Radio Free Europe, with enclosed copy of those remarks forwarded to the State Department. I note also your forwarding me the subsequent answer to the request, from the office of Secretary of State, April 4, 1958.

You honor me with your letters and I thank you, heartily, for your consideration and service in this matter.

Though this acknowledgement is rather "tardy", I want to say a few things more about Radio Free Europe, and about the Departments' reply to my request so, maybe, better late than never.

The information the Department sent about the Crusade for Freedom, the Free Europe Committee, and Radio Free Europe, is valued and appreciated. That advice, however, is based entirely on favorable activities of Radio Free Europe, which are unobjectionable.

More information, tho', was in order and of course, appreciated. The Department's assumption, however, that I asked only for information about Radio Free Europe, and its' pursuant comments, makes it's communication "ducking" of the actual request made. The actual request is, therefore, yet unanswered.

In view of this circumstance, I would like to ask your Honors would you yourself be satisfied with that answer?

The request, as stated, is for an official check on Un-favorable and Subversive-like Activities of Radio Free Europe. We've been told about some activities of Radio Free Europe which might certainly be not committent with its true purpose, and out of good faith with American principles, and not, therefore, representative of the American citizenry.

That such divergent actions of Radio Free Europe have occurred, and perhaps, are still being perpetrated, I can only refer to the numerous reports and comments by Fulton Lewis, Jr. Mr. Lewis surely must have documented evidence supporting these allegations.

Having here, thus, referred to Mr. Lewis, I am simultaneously sending him a duplicate copy of this letter.

With every good wish.

I remain respectfully



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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington

In reply refer to SEV
940.40/3-2758

Dear Mr. Baldwin:

I refer to your letter of March 27, 1958, acknowledged by telephone on March 31, concerning a letter you have received from [redacted]

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[redacted] requested information concerning Radio Free Europe, an organization affiliated with the Crusade for Freedom.

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The Crusade for Freedom is a private and non-official organization which sponsors the Free Europe Committee and its radio station Radio Free Europe. Because so many of the functions and objectives of the three organizations relate to foreign affairs, the Department of State is generally familiar with their activities. The Department, however, does not recognize the right of American citizens to carry out private endeavors such as the mission of the Free Europe Committee and does not, of course, attempt to direct the Free Europe Committee or to interfere in its management.

The Department believes that Radio Free Europe's principles are consistent with United States policy which favors peaceful evolutionary processes and trends in the countries of Eastern Europe, looking toward freedom of action and independence in their international and external affairs. Radio Free Europe fosters this process without recommendation as to the eventual form of government for the Eastern European countries to which it broadcasts, but urges that there be a representative government freely chosen by the people.

The principal emphasis of Radio Free Europe's broadcasts to the peoples of Eastern Europe is on news and the advantages of democratic freedom over Communist imperialism. Political reports and news commentaries recounting developments in the United States and in the free world--information not generally available to Radio Free Europe's listening audience because of censorship--make up an important part of the broadcasts.

The board of directors of the Crusade for Freedom is composed of respected and distinguished figures in the United States whose loyalty to the American way of life is beyond question. As late as November 29, 1957 President Eisenhower personally

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expressed his wholehearted support of the Crusade and the Work of the Free Europe Committee and Radio Free Europe. The Department believes that the Free Europe Committee and Radio Free Europe have made important contributions to carrying the message of freedom to the peoples of Eastern Europe and are decidedly a significant free world force countering international communism.

I hope this information will be helpful to you in replying to [redacted] and if we can be of any further assistance to you please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State

William B. Macomber, Jr.
Assistant Secretary

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Washington, D. C.

June 4, 1958

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing to you on behalf of my constituent

[redacted] originally wrote to me on March 10, 1958 and asked the following:

"Much shocking information has been published about Radio Free Europe. Obviously its influence is inadvertently, or otherwise, subversive. Hence, it is the intense concern of loyal American citizens.

"Can you therefore, please, accordingly recommend and work for, an official investigation of the activities of Radio Free Europe, as to its good faith, or, as to otherwise, sponsoring the real purpose of its functioning; and its representing American principles and the American citizenry?"

I wrote a letter to the Department of State forwarding [redacted] questions and asked for a reply. I am enclosing a copy of this reply dated April 3, 1958. However I have now received the attached letter dated May 24, 1958 from [redacted] stating that he still would like to have an answer to his questions on the unfavorable and subversive-like activities of Radio Free Europe. He believes that an official check should be made relative to these activities. Inasmuch as any violations by this Agency of Federal laws would come within your jurisdiction, I am forwarding this correspondence

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Mr. J. E. Hoover

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6/4/58

to you and would appreciate your investigating this subject and letting me know whether the operations of Radio Free Europe have been subversive or have violated any of the other laws of this country.

Sincerely,

/s/ John F. Baldwin
JOHN F. BALDWIN, M. C.
California Sixth District

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Enclosures

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United States Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington 25, D. C.

June 10, 1958

Honorable John F. Baldwin
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman:

I have received your letter dated June 4, 1958,
enclosing a copy of a letter to you dated May 24, 1958,
from [redacted]
California, and a copy of a letter dated April 3, 1958, to you
from the Department of State.

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While I would like to be of assistance in connection
with your request, I must advise that Crusade for Freedom and
its radio station, Radio Free Europe, have not been investigated
by the FBI. I have taken the liberty of referring a copy of your
letter and its enclosures to another agency of the Government
and have been assured that one of its representatives will call
on you in the immediate future to discuss your inquiry.

I trust that this action will meet with your approval and
will be of assistance to you in connection with your constituent's
inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

Attached is a memorandum recommending that IO and the Legislative Counsel brief Congressman Baldwin to the extent necessary concerning RFE. Correspondence is attached from State and FBI to the Congressman. IO and Security concur in my recommendation that the Congressman be briefed to the extent necessary.

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John S. Warner
Legislative Counsel

16 June 1958
(DATE)